

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A ball throwing apparatus, comprising:
  - a. an elongated shaft having a longitudinal axis and opposite distal and proximal ends; and
  - b. a ball engaging means located on said distal end of said shaft, said ball engaging means capable of engaging a ball while holding said shaft and forcibly inserting said ball engaging means around the ball, said ball engaging means capable of releasing the ball when said shaft is held near said distal end of said shaft and swung in a circular path.
2. A ball throwing apparatus, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said ball engaging means is a half-spherical structure capable of snap fitting around a ball, said half-spherical structure having an opening.
3. A ball throwing apparatus, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said elongated shaft is rearwardly curved.
4. A ball throwing apparatus, as recited in Claim 2, wherein the opening of angle of said half-spherical structure is aligned approximately 5 degrees forward and 33 degrees behind the shaft's longitudinal axis.
5. A method of playing the game of fetch, including the following steps:
  - a. selecting an elongated shaft with a ball engaging means disposed at its distal end, said ball engaging means capable of engaging a ball without the aid of one's hands or fingers and capable of releasing a ball when said shaft is swung;
  - b. holding the proximal of said shaft;
  - c. attaching a ball to said ball engaging means while holding said shaft; and
  - d. swinging said shaft while holding said proximal end thereby causing said ball to be released from said ball engaging means.